

- 28 31. The stent of claim 30²⁷, wherein the segments have a generally rectangular cross-section.
- 29 32. The stent of claim 30²⁷, wherein the segments have a generally round cross-section.
- 30 33. The stent as defined in claim 30²⁷, wherein the connections of opposed ends defines a series of upper and lower turns alternating in a circumferential direction.

REMARKS

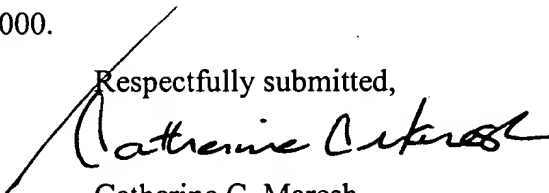
Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. Claims 4-33 are currently pending in this Application. The Office Action rejections of claim 2 are considered moot in view of the cancellation of claim 2. However, Applicant does note that the Lam patent cited by the Examiner is not prior art to Applicant's invention. Applicant's application has a priority date of August 24, 1989. The Lam reference has a subsequent priority date of December 23, 1993. Also, Applicants note that the Gianturco reference discloses stents that are incapable of being mounted on the outside of the catheter and retaining a compressed configuration.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that claims 4-33 are patentable, and that the application is in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Dated this 21st day of July, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,



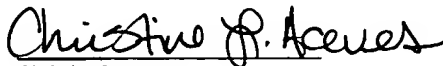
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in the envelope addressed to: Box Fee Amendments, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: 7/21, 2000


Christine L. Aceves